

News

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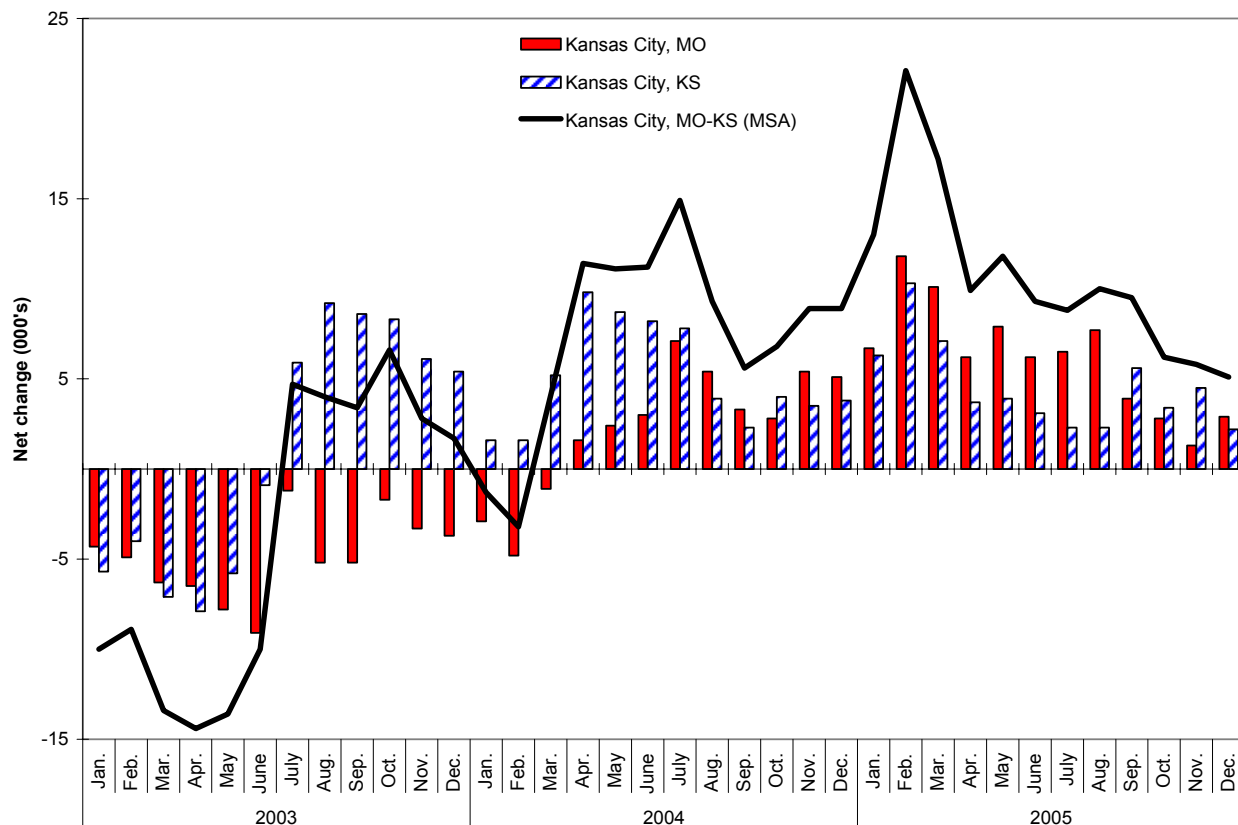
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KANSAS CITY AREA JOB COUNT RISES BY 5,100 IN 2005

Total nonfarm employment for the Kansas City, Mo.-Ks. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) increased 5,100 over the year to 982,300 in December 2005, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Although Kansas City's 0.5-percent increase in employment was not as strong as the 1.5-percent increase for the nation, Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that this marked the 22nd consecutive month of over-the-year job growth. However, the recent expansion was still well below the peak 12-month increase of 31,300 jobs from June 1996 to June 1997.

From December 2004 to December 2005, the rates of employment growth in Kansas City's two separately identifiable employment centers – Kansas City, Mo. and Kansas City, Ks. – both matched the MSA's growth rate of 0.5 percent. Still, the Kansas City, Mo. portion added around 30 percent more jobs than the Kansas portion over the year. (See chart 1 and table 1; Technical Note at end of release contains metropolitan area definitions. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, analysis is based on over-the-year comparisons.)

Chart 1. Over-the-year net change in total nonfarm employment in the Kansas City metropolitan area and its components, January 2003-December 2005



In the Kansas City, Mo.-Ks. MSA, over-the-year employment growth was led by the addition of 3,900 jobs in natural resources, mining and construction, an increase of 7.7 percent, with both the Missouri and Kansas portions of the area contributing to the rise. Employment in other services grew by 1,000 jobs, while education and health services added nearly as many. On the other hand, the trade, transportation and utilities supersector lost close to 1,000 jobs with all of the decline occurring in the Kansas portion of the metropolitan area. Employment in the six remaining industry supersectors was either unchanged or varied little from December 2004 to December 2005.

Over-the-year job growth in the Kansas City, Mo. portion of the metropolitan area was driven by natural resources, mining and construction (2,100) and educational and health services (1,100). The largest decline in the Missouri portion occurred in government which lost 1,000 jobs. Little to no change in employment was recorded in the remaining seven supersectors over the 12-month period.

In the Kansas City, Ks. portion of the metropolitan area, natural resources, mining and construction was also the growth leader, adding 1,800 jobs over the year. On the other hand, trade, transportation and utilities lost close to 1,000 jobs. Employment in all of the other industry supersectors was little changed from December 2004 to December 2005.

Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, Kansas City metropolitan area and its components, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands)

Area and Industry	December 2004	October 2005	November 2005	December 2005(p)	Change from Dec 2004 to Dec 2005(p)	
					Number	Percent
Kansas City, Mo.-Ks. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)						
Total nonfarm	977.2	979.3	982.0	982.3	5.1	0.5
Natural resources, mining & construction	50.4	56.3	56.0	54.3	3.9	7.7
Manufacturing	84.5	84.3	84.2	83.9	-0.6	-0.7
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	209.0	204.0	206.8	208.2	-0.8	-0.4
Information	44.2	43.7	43.8	43.9	-0.3	-0.7
Financial Activities	71.5	71.9	72.1	72.2	0.7	1.0
Professional & Business Services	129.0	129.0	129.5	129.7	0.7	0.5
Educational & Health Services	110.2	110.5	111.1	111.1	0.9	0.8
Leisure & Hospitality	91.5	93.3	91.2	91.5	0.0	0.0
Other Services	40.4	41.0	41.2	41.4	1.0	2.5
Government	146.5	145.3	146.1	146.1	-0.4	-0.3
Kansas City, Mo. portion						
Total nonfarm	555.1	555.8	556.3	558.0	2.9	0.5
Natural resources, mining & construction	29.4	32.0	31.9	31.5	2.1	7.1
Manufacturing	48.2	48.2	48.1	48.0	-0.2	-0.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	112.6	110.3	111.6	112.6	0.0	0.0
Information	20.4	19.9	19.9	20.0	-0.4	-2.0
Financial Activities	42.1	42.3	42.4	42.6	0.5	1.2
Professional & Business Services	68.5	67.8	68.2	68.6	0.1	0.1
Educational & Health Services	62.7	63.4	63.7	63.8	1.1	1.8
Leisure & Hospitality	56.3	57.9	56.0	56.3	0.0	0.0
Other Services	25.4	26.1	26.1	26.1	0.7	2.8
Government	89.5	87.9	88.4	88.5	-1.0	-1.1
Kansas City, Ks. portion						
Total nonfarm	422.1	423.5	425.7	424.3	2.2	0.5
Natural resources, mining & construction	21.0	24.3	24.1	22.8	1.8	8.6
Manufacturing	36.3	36.1	36.1	35.9	-0.4	-1.1
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	96.4	93.7	95.2	95.6	-0.8	-0.8
Information	23.8	23.8	23.9	23.9	0.1	0.4
Financial Activities	29.4	29.6	29.7	29.6	0.2	0.7
Professional & Business Services	60.5	61.2	61.3	61.1	0.6	1.0
Educational & Health Services	47.5	47.1	47.4	47.3	-0.2	-0.4
Leisure & Hospitality	35.2	35.4	35.2	35.2	0.0	0.0
Other Services	15.0	14.9	15.1	15.3	0.3	2.0
Government	57.0	57.4	57.7	57.6	0.6	1.1

Technical Note

This release presents nonfarm payroll employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. The CES survey is a Federal-State cooperative endeavor in which State employment security agencies prepare the data using concepts, definitions, and technical procedures prescribed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2002 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Method of estimation. The employment data are estimated using a "link relative" technique in which a ratio (link relative) of current-month employment to that of the previous month is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are obtained by multiplying the estimates for the previous month by these ratios. Small-domain models are used as the official estimators for approximately 10 percent of CES published series.

Annual revisions. Employment estimates are adjusted annually to a complete count of jobs, called benchmarks, derived principally from tax reports which are submitted by employers who are covered under state unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The benchmark information is used to adjust the monthly estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one and also to establish the level of employment for the new benchmark month. Thus, the benchmarking process establishes the level of employment, and the sample is used to measure the month-to-month changes in the level for the subsequent months.

Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample survey and administrative data and thus are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability--that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data are also subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the special estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error for state CES data at the supersector level are available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm>. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available at <http://www.bls.gov/sae/>.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, dated February 18, 2004. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is published annually in the May issue of Employment and Earnings.

The Kansas City, Mo.-Ks. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Bates, Caldwell, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Jackson, Lafayette, Platte, and Ray Counties in Missouri; Franklin, Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami, and Wyandotte Counties in Kansas.

The Kansas City, Mo. portion includes Bates, Caldwell, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Jackson, Lafayette, Platte, and Ray Counties in Missouri.

The Kansas City, Ks. portion includes Franklin, Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami, and Wyandotte Counties in Kansas.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment and Earnings*, which is available by subscription from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 (telephone 202-512-1800).

Industry employment data for states and metropolitan areas from the CES program are also available in the above mentioned news releases and from the Internet at (<http://www.bls.gov/sae/>).